GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:121
ANSWERED ON:17.02.2009
FREEDOM FIGHTERS PENSION
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of freedom fighters, their widows and other eligible dependents in the country who are receiving Freedom Fighters` Pension as on date, separately,State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received any complaints about Fake Freedom Fighters receiving pension in the country;

(c) if so, the total number of such cases registered by the Government and details of action taken against them during each of the last three years and current year, State wise;and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such cases in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a): Since the inception of the Freedom Fighters' Pension Scheme in 1972, the Government has sanctioned pension to about 1,70,483 freedom fighters and their widows and other eligible dependents till 31.01.2009.A statement indicating the State-wise details is annexed.

(b)&(c): Complaints containing allegation of bogus/fraudulent claims for freedom fighter's pension are received from time to time.All such complaints are examined with reference to the applicable provisions of the pension scheme in consultation with the concerned State Governments.In cases where the allegations are sustained,the claims are rejected and if the pension has been sanctioned,the same is suspended/cancelled and recovery of pension ordered after following the prescribed procedure.

(d): The claims of Central Samman Pension are considered on the basis of eligibility criteria and evidentiary requirements prescribed in the Scheme and duly verified by State Government/Union Territory.